

Remarks and Arguments

Claims 26-32 are pending. Claims 26, 28, 29 and 30 have been amended, and new claim 32 added. Support for the amendment in claim 26 is found in Figure 1 and the last paragraph of page 8 showing the dielectric layer 6 between the anode layer 4 and the light emissive layer 8 as an unpatterned dielectric layer, in contrast to the patterned cathode layer 10. New claim 32 is based on claim 26 and the original disclosure at the third full paragraph of page 6.

Request to Make Arai U.S. Patent 5,981,092 of Record

The third reference relied upon by the Examiner, Arai U.S. Patent No. 5,981,092, was not listed on the Examiner's search report (PTO 892). Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner add this to a PTO 892 form so that the reference is officially included in the prior art of record noted on the front of any patent which issues from this application.

Claim Rejections under §102

Claims 26-27 were rejected under §102(e) as being anticipated by Nagayama U.S. Patent 5,814,417.

Claims 28-29 were rejected under §102(e) as anticipated by Iwanaga U.S. Patent 5,710,484.

Claims 30-31 were rejected under §102(e) as anticipated by Arai U.S. Patent 5,981,092.

Applicant's amended claims, which include independent claims 26, 28, 30 and 32, are believe to patentably distinguish over the prior art of record.

Nagayama U.S. Patent 5,814,417 teaches away from providing an unpatterned dielectric layer as recited in amended claim 26. Nagayama describes the use of laser-patterning to remove selective portions of the constituent layers and thereby define an array of independent pixel regions designated by the reference character "8" in Figures 1 and 3. It teaches the use of a heat resistant film layer 3 at selected portions to reduce the damage to the pixel regions 8 during the laser-patterning step. As illustrated in Figures 1 and 3 and the written disclosure at column 7, lines 45-51, Nagayama teaches

excluding the heat resistant film 3 (otherwise referred to as a laser absorbing layer or laser protective layer) from the pixel regions 8. In particular, at column 7, line 46 it explicitly teaches **NOT** forming the laser protective layer at the pixel regions. Accordingly, Nagayama teaches away from providing an unpatterned dielectric layer as recited in amended claim 26.

In regard to amended claim 28, Applicant understands from the Examiner's comments that there is no suggestion that Iwanaga U.S. Patent 5,710,484 discloses or suggests the use of a layer of amorphous silicon between the anode and the light emissive layer. Thus, Iwanaga fails to teach or suggest the subject matter of amended claim 28.

Arai U.S. Patent 5,981,092 fails to teach or suggest use of a layer consisting essentially of one or more of the five conductive oxides recited in amended claim 30. Arai '092 teaches the use of tin oxide and zinc oxide in the layer between the anode and light emissive layer of a light emissive device, BUT only as a mixture with at least another material, such as silicon. Thus, there is no teaching or suggestion to use a layer consisting essentially of the conductive oxides recited in claim 30.

New claim 32 provides a dielectric layer in which charge carriers are injected from the anode into the light emissive region via the dielectric layer. In contrast, Nagayama U.S. Patent 5,814,417 teaches **excluding** the heat resistant film 3 from the pixel regions. Accordingly, it teaches away from providing a dielectric layer in which charge carriers are injected from the anode into the light emissive region via the dielectric layer.

RECONSIDERATION

It is believed that all claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a teleconference would expedite prosecution of the present application the Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Any amendments or cancellation or submissions with respect to the claims herein is made without prejudice and is not an admission that said canceled or amended or otherwise affected subject matter is not patentable. Applicant reserves the right to pursue canceled or amended subject matter in one or more continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part applications.

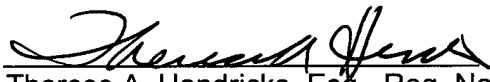
To the extent that Applicant has not addressed one or more assertions of the Examiner because the foregoing response is sufficient, this is not an admission by Applicant as to the accuracy of such assertions.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any fees in addition to fees submitted herewith that may be required to enter/allow this response and any accompanying papers to our deposit account 02-3038 and credit any overpayments thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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